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MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HANDBOOKS,



SAINT PAUL
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY
MAY, 1920



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Heft 37

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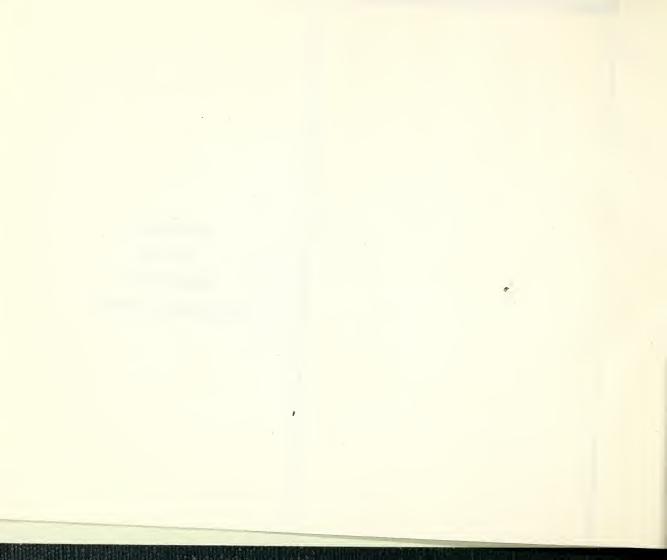


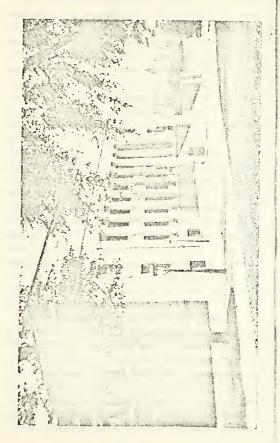
HANDBOOK

OF THE

MINNESOTA

HISTORICAL SOCIETY





HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Minnesota Historical Society was formally organized on November 15, 1849, in the office of Charles Kilgore Smith, secretary of the territory of Minnesota. Alexander Ramsey was elected president and Mr. Smith secretary. The first territorial legislature had already passed and Governor Ramsey on Octoher 20 had signed an act of incorporation drawn up by Mr. Smith. The object of the society as stated in this act was "the collection and preservation of a Library . . . Indian curiosities and other matters and things connected with, and calculated to illustrate and perpetuate the history and settlement" of Minnesota Territory. An amendment to this act, approved March 1, 1856, further provided that: "The objects of said Society · . . shall be, in addition to the collection and preservation of publications, manuscripts, antiquities, curiosities, and all other things pertaining to the social, political and natural history of Minnesota, to cultivate among the citizens thereof a knowledge of the useful and liberal arts, science and literature,"



The principal activities of the society during the fifties consisted of the holding of meetings at which papers were read and the publication of a series of pamphlets called Annals. A beginning was made in the accumulation of a library, however, and in 1855 a room in the capitol was set aside for the use of the society. In the following year its public character was further recognized by an act of the territorial legislature authorizing an annual grant of five hundred dollars to aid in carrying on the work. An attempt was made during this period to raise money by subscription and the sale of life memberships for the erec-, tion of a building for the society. A site on the corner of Wabasha and Tenth streets was purchased, the foundation walls were completed, and in 1856 the corner stone was laid with imposing ceremonies. The necessary funds for the completion of the building could not be secured because of the Panic of 1857. but the lots purchased for the site proved to be a valuable investment.

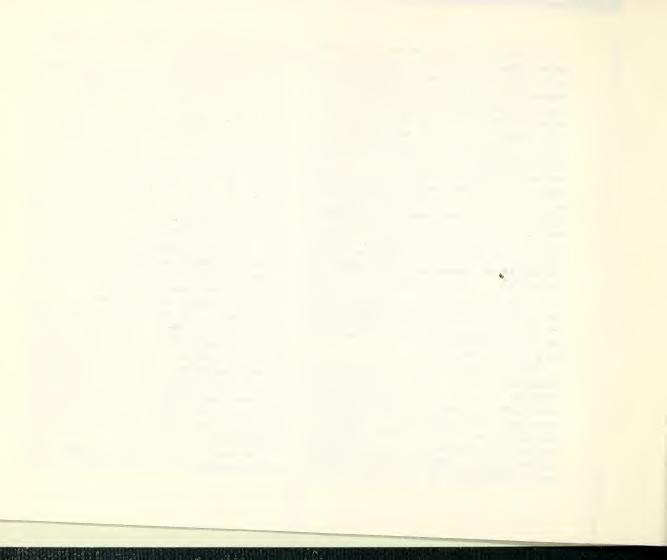
With the outbreak of the Civil War the appropriation from the state was cut off, soon thereafter the room in the capitol was requisitioned for other purposes, and for about two years the society was inactive. In 1863 a reorganization was effected, however, the appropriation was restored by the next legislature, and from 1864 to 1868 the society occupied a room adjoining the St. Paul Public Library

in the Ingersoll Block on the corner of Waba-sha and Third streets.

The man who laid the real foundations of the society, and particularly of its library, was J. Fletcher Williams, who was elected secretary in 1867 and who served in that capacity until 1892. In 1868 quarters were again secured in the capitol, and in 1869 the appropriation from the state was increased to two thousand dollars a year, thus making it possible for Mr. Williams to devote himself entirely to the work. The library which consisted of about three thousand books and pamphlets in 1868 increased, by gift and purchase, to over twenty thousand in 1881, newspaper files were systematically accumulated. and a considerable museum of archeological and historical objects was assembled. The appropriation was raised to \$2,500 in 1871, to \$3,-000 in 1876, and to \$4,000 in 1881.

In March, 1881, the capitol building was burned to the ground. Fortunately for the society its rooms were located in the basement, which made possible the removal of practically all the main library; most of the newspaper files were in a fireproof vault; but some valuable newspapers, the entire museum, and over twenty thousand volumes of duplicates, mostly state documents, and of stock of the society's publications were destroyed.

For two years the society occupied rooms in the basement of the Market House, on the



corner of Wabasha and Seventh streets, after which it was installed in the new capitol erected on the site of the old. There it remained until 1905, when it took possession of somewhat more commodious quarters in the present capitol building. The annual appropriation from the state was further increased in 1883 to \$6,000, in 1899 to \$7,500, in 1901 to \$11,000, in 1903 to \$15,000, in 1905 to \$20,000, and in 1917 to \$25,000. From 1883 on, the library grew steadily at the rate of about three thousand books and pamphlets a year, the museum was built up anew, and a valuable manuscript collection was accumulated. The long term of Mr. Williams as secretary was almost equaled by that of Warren Upham, who served the society faithfully in that capacity from 1895 to 1914 and who now holds the position of archeologist. The present secretary, Solon I. Buck, was elected in 1014.

Among the presidents and other officers of the society have been many men of prominence in Minnesota history, such as Alexander Ramsey, Henry H. Sibley, Henry M. Rice, John B. Sanborn, Cushman K. Davis, Archbishop Ireland, and James J. Hill.

ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP

The form of organization of the society is determined by the act of incorporation and amendments thereto and by a set of by-laws, which was revised and consolidated in March, 1915. Its government is vested in an executive council composed of the governor of the state and five other state officers, ex officio, and thirty life members chosen by ballot every three years at an annual meeting of the society. There is an executive committee composed of the president, the secretary, the treasurer, and two other members of the council appointed by the president, which transacts the business of the society under the direction and subject to the approval of the executive council. The officers of the council, who are also the officers of the society, are a president, two vicepresidents, a secretary, and a treasurer. They are elected by the council for a term of three years. The secretary is, ex officio, the superintendent of the society and as such is charged, under the direction of the executive committee or the council, with the administration of all its activities.

The financial support of the society comes mainly from the state, the appropriation for the current biennium, 1919–21, being twenty-five thousand dollars a year. There is also an income of about six thousand dollars from private endowment funds, and membership fees bring in a small additional amount. The society has urgent need of a larger income and solicits gifts or bequests. For the latter, the following form is suggested: "I give, devise, and bequeath to the Minnesota Historical So-



ciety, a corporation duly incorporated by the territory of Minnesota and located in the city of St. Paul in the state of Minnesota, the sum of dollars, the same to be utilized for the general purposes of the said society." If it is the devisor's intention that the sum bequeathed should be devoted to some specific purpose, that purpose should be clearly and definitely stated. The officers of the society are prepared to make suggestions as to such purposes, some of which are especially suitable for memorial donations or bequests.

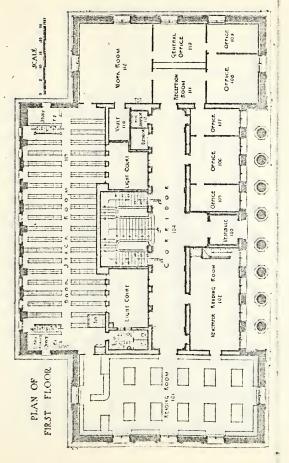
Membership in the society is of three classes, active, corresponding, and honorary. Corresponding members are "persons residing outside the state, who manifest an interest in the society and its objects, and are willing to aid it by representing it in their vicinity, and procuring donations for its library and museum"; honorary members are "persons distinguished for their literary or scientific attainments, particularly in the field of American history." The only requisite for admission to active membership is application and the payment of dues. The active members are divided - into three classes, annual, sustaining, and life. Dues of annual members are two dollars per annum, of sustaining members five dollars per annum, and of life members twenty-five dollars; but any one who has paid dues as an annual member for twenty, or as a sustaining member for six successive years may be enrolled as a life member without further payment. Active membership carries with it the privilege of participating in the business meetings of the society and of receiving its publications. Everyone who is interested in promoting historical work in Minnesota is cordially invited to become an active member. Application blanks will be furnished on request.

The annual meetings of the society are held on the second Monday in January, except in legislative years when they occur on the second Monday after the assembling of the legislature. A public session is held in connection with this meeting, at which an address is delivered on some historical topic of general interest. The council holds an annual and three stated meetings each year, and these also furnish occasion, as a rule, for open sessions for the reading of historical papers. All these meetings are held in the Historical Building.

THE HISTORICAL BUILDING

The present building, which is located on a commanding eminence adjacent to the Capitol, on the northwest corner of Cedar Street and Central Avenue, St. Paul, was authorized by an act of the legislature of 1913, five hundred thousand dollars being appropriated for the purpose. The work of construction was not commenced, however, until December, 1915, because it was found necessary to have



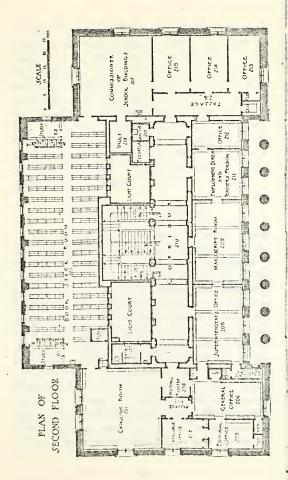


the act amended by the legislature of 1915. The building was practically completed by December, 1917, and the work of moving was begun immediately. The reading room was opened to the public on January 16, and the formal dedication of the building took place on May 11, 1918, in connection with the eleventh annual meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, which convened in St. Paul, May 9, 10, and 11, at the invitation of the society.

The building contains five floors. The south end of the basement and ground floors are occupied by the library division of the state department of education. In the basement are located the janitors' and engineer's rooms, and the heating and ventilating machinery. On the ground floor are the photostat room, a kitchenette and rest room for the staff, and the shipping and receiving room of the society, part of which serves temporarily as the office of the Minnesota War Records Commission. Portions of both lower floors are also occupied by the main bookstack and the newspaper stack.

The accompanying floor plans show the location of the various rooms on the first and second floors. The department of education occupies rooms on the south end as well as a few adjacent rooms on the west side of both floors (105–112 and 211–217). On the first floor are the newspaper reading room (102) and the





main reading room (101), both opening off from the central corridor, and connected with each other by an interior doorway. The librarian's office (E 1) and the lowest floor of the bookstack so far completed are reached through the east end of the reading room. On the second floor are the manuscript room (209), the superintendent's office (208), the general office (206), the editorial office (205), and the catalogue and accessions rooms (201, 202), all connected with each other by interior doorways, and all, except the manuscript room, reached from the main corridor through room 204. The entire third floor is occupied by the museum and galleries.

The main entrance from the street leads to the first floor: the two small entrances on either side of the steps of the main entrance lead to the ground floor. A passenger elevator gives service to all floors and the main bookstack is equipped with an automatic service elevator. There are also two automatic book lifts, one in the main stack room, which serves also the shipping and catalogue rooms, and one in the newspaper stack room which extends to the newspaper reading room above. The service driveway in the rear is accessible to the shipping and receiving room of the historical society at the north end on the ground floor, and to the shipping rooms of the department of education at the south end on the basement floor.



The exterior walls of the building are constructed of warm gray granite, quarried at Sauk Rapids, Minnesota; the marble of the main staircase and of the floors of the corridors and stackrooms is from quarries at Kasota, Minnesota; and the stone for the walls of the vestibule and entrance hall on the first floor is from deposits at Frontenac, Minnesota. The style of architecture is Roman Renaissance reduced to its simplest elements, the central motive being an Ionic colonnade projected over a recessed loggia.

THE MAIN LIBRARY

The main library contains at present about 120,000 printed books and pamphlets, not including newspapers, which are administered in a separate division. It endeavors, first of all, to maintain a complete Minnesota collection consisting of all books, pamphlets, and miscellaneous printed matter relating in any way to the state. This includes official publications of state, county, and city departments and institutions; publications of semiofficial or private societies, organizations, and business establishments; periodicals issued in Minnesota; works by Minnesota authors; and publications about Minnesota, its subdivisions, physical features, citizens, institutions, and organizations. Current material is acquired as well as that relating to the past. This Minnesota collection occupies a separate portion of the bookstack, where it may be conveniently consulted by any one desiring to study the state in any of its various aspects.

The field of Americana is so large that the library cannot attempt to cover it fully. So far as available funds will permit, however, all important works in general American history and a somewhat more comprehensive selection of books relating to the upper Mississippi Valley and Great Lakes region are acquired. The library is an official depository for the publications of the United States government, and its collection of the documents of other states supplements that of the State Library, particularly for the period prior to 1881. Special subjects in the field of Americana for which the library has well rounded collections are geology, archeology, Indians, biography, travel and description, local history, political science, economics, and education. On two subjects the library aims to have practically complete collections of available material. These are American genealogy and the history of the Scandinavian element in the United States.

The collection of genealogical material ranks among the best of its kind in the country. Besides a large number of family histories, it includes files of practically all the genealogical magazines, many sets of collected genealogies, files of the publications of the



hereditary patriotic societies, and many volumes of vital records. The various printed indexes which guide the investigator are included, and much supplementary material is available in individual biographies, the publications of historical societies, published archives and military records, and a remarkable collection of town, county, and state histories. Both amateur and professional genealogists are constantly at work in the library, and from it has been drawn the evidence to support innumerable applications for admission to hereditary patriotic societies.

The society has recently begun to devote special attention to the history of the Scandinavian element in the United States. In order to avoid duplication, an agreement was made with the board of regents of the University of Minnesota by which the university library will acquire material relating to the Scandinavian languages and literatures and to the history of the Scandinavian countries themselves, and the historical society will collect material relating to these nationalities in the United States. In accord with this agreement the university . library transferred to the society its extensive and valuable O. N. Nelson collection. During the summer of 1918 the society also acquired another large collection from Professor Gisle Bothne of the University of Minnesota, About fifty Scandinavian-American newspapers and periodicals from all parts of the United States

are being received currently, and many back volumes have been acquired from various sources. The society has had the aid of Scandinavian experts in the bibliographical work of building up this collection, and there are usually on the staff one or two assistants with a knowledge of the languages to help in caring for it. It is believed that the collection will soon be, if it is not already, the most complete of its kind in the country.

Outside the field of Americana the present policy of the library is to maintain select reference collections rather than to build up comprehensive collections for research purposes. The various encyclopedias, indexes, and other standard reference works will be found on the shelves, and the most important books relating to foreign countries are acquired as far as possible. Works in the scientific field are not collected except on subjects closely related to history, such as geology and anthropology. Books of fiction are also excluded unless they have historical value or are the products of Minnesota authors. But since the limits of collection were less restricted in the past, when the output of books was smaller, and since all sorts of works have been received as gifts, rare and curious items on almost every conceivable subject may be found in the library.

Fully two-thirds of the current acquisitions come in as exchanges or gifts. Nearly all the



historical societies, the principal universities, and many other institutions of the United States and Canada, and a few in other countries send their publications to the society in exchange for its publications; and much valuable material is acquired by the exchange of duplicates with other large libraries. Countless individuals and organizations all over the country present copies of their publications in order that they may be preserved in the library and made accessible to the public. Members and friends of the society frequently turn over to it accumulations of books, pamphlets, and periodicals which they do not care to retain, and such contributions are earnestly solicited. No one need hesitate to do this for fear that the material will not be wanted because such of it as proves to be duplicated in the library or outside of its field can nearly always be disposed of to advantage by exchange with other institutions.

THE REFERENCE DEPARTMENT

The resources of the library are free to the public and are available through the reading-room service. Application for all books, pamphlets, periodicals, and maps should be made at the desk in the main reading room (101), which is open from 8:30 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. every day except Sunday. Many of the more important reference works, such as

genealogical sets, dictionaries, encyclopedias, atlases, and periodical indexes, are placed in open shelves around the room. One section of shelves is filled with a collection of recent books of general interest, which is constantly being renewed. Beside it is a section used for exhibitions of books on special subjects of current interest.

A list of the books in the library will be found in the card catalogue, which is in cases at the east end of the room. By means of this catalogue the books in the library may be located. In each drawer of the case will be found a card of instructions with "How to use this catalogue" printed in red on the projecting tab. By following the directions on this card it is a simple matter to ascertain whether or not the library has a specific book or what books it has on a given subject and to secure the desired material. The attendants at the desk will gladly give advice and suggestions about the use of the catalogue and reference books, but patrons are expected to make out their own call slips for books and do the actual work of investigation themselves. The librarian will be glad to assist, as far as possible, in the solution of problems involving especial difficulties and will be summoned by the attendant when necessary.

The collections of the library are primarily for use in the building, but books not fre-



quently used in reference work and not difficult to replace if lost may be borrowed by responsible persons for home or office use. An extension of the service of the library is made possible through the system of interlibrary loans. The librarian will, when requested, endeavor to borrow from some outside library books needed for research purposes which are not available in any of the libraries of the Twin Cities. In such cases the user must pay transportation charges and the books may not be taken from the building. Inquiries by mail or telephone for information that can readily be found in the reference books of the library are answered by the librarian with as much dispatch as circumstances will permit.

The privilege of consulting books in the stack is extended, on application at the desk, to competent persons who can furnish satisfactory references. The stack room occupies four full stories on the east side of the building from the basement to the second-floor ceiling and encloses an eight-tier enameled-steel. self-supporting bookstack with a capacity of 384,000 volumes. The shelving and floors for the four lower tiers have not been installed as yet. At the entrance to each floor is a schedule giving the locations of books on all the floors. The individual sections of the stack are also labeled on the ends with the classification numbers. Black type on these labels indicate the Cutter classification, and red, that of the Library of Congress. A distinction is also made in the labels on the backs of the books; round labels are used for the Cutter and rectangular ones for the Library of Congress classification. (See page 27.) A few private studies on the floors of the bookstack are available for persons engaged in extensive research.

THE ACCESSIONS AND CATALOGUE DEPARTMENTS

To the accessions department belongs the work of acquiring additions to the library. either by purchase, exchange, or gift. Books to be purchased are selected mainly from catalogues issued by publishers and by dealers in remainders and second-hand books and from reviews in historical periodicals. Before ordering an item it is usually necessary to consult the catalogue, a current-receipts file, and the outstanding orders in order to prevent duplication. Extensive correspondence is conducted to secure the exchange material to which the society is entitled and to establish new exchange relations. Many letters are written to the authors of privately printed books asking for presentation copies and to publishers of magazines and reports asking that the society's name be placed on the complimentary mailing list.



All books and pamphlets arriving at the library go first to the accessions department where they are checked on the bills and records, or acknowledged if they are gifts, and entered in the current-receipts file. Incoming periodicals and serial publications, of which the society was receiving over two thousand at the end of 1919, are checked in a card record, and constant vigilance is necessary to prevent gaps in the files of this material. The accessions department also prepares books and periodicals for binding. This involves the preparation of instructions for the binder, collation to insure perfect copies, and, frequently, correspondence to obtain title pages and indexes. When the volumes return from the bindery they are checked on the binder's bill and examined to see that the instructions have been followed.

After leaving the accessions department books go to the catalogue department for classifying, cataloguing, and shelving. The progress of a book through this department is frequently a long and complicated process. Author, title, and subject cards are prepared for the public catalogue in the reading room. One card is also made for the shelf list, which is a file in the catalogue room containing cards arranged in the order in which the books stand on the shelves. If a book covers several different subjects or is written by several authors, a larger number of cards are neces-

sary. Many problems as to names, dates, editions, and series numbers have to be solved by the cataloguers. Printed catalogue cards for many of the books are purchased from the Library of Congress. An alphabetical file of cards printed by the Library of Congress since July, 1915, is maintained in the catalogue room. and this valuable bibliographical aid may be consulted by any one interested. The system of classification now used is that of the Library of Congress, which is especially suited to a library composed largely of Americana. An exception is made, however, in the case of United States documents, most of which are arranged according to a scheme devised by the superintendent of documents in Washington. Books received before 1915 were classified according to the Cutter system, but these are gradually being reclassified.

THE NEWSPAPER DIVISION

One of the most valuable parts of the society's library is the collection of Minnesota newspapers numbering about ten thousand bound volumes and ranking among the half dozen largest and best-cared-for newspaper collections in the country. Most of the files are complete from the beginning of the paper, and organs presenting various points of view can be found for every period from the first appearance of the press in the state in 1849 to the



present. This collection is an invaluable source of information for state and local history and is much used by research workers. It is also consulted frequently by attorneys for legal evidence, especially with reference to the publication of notices. At present about four hundred papers, including at least one from every county in the state are received regularly as contributions from the publishers, and back files of papers not received as issued are occasionally acquired. With reference to papers published outside the state, no attempt is made to rival the great collection of the Wisconsin Historical Society, but the library possesses long files of a number of important papers, and the current issues of about a dozen of the principal dailies representative of different sections of the country are turned over to the division for preservation by the Minneapolis public and university libraries.

The newspaper reading room (102) is equipped with special racks for holding the volumes while they are being consulted and contains a cabinet for the current files of the daily papers most frequently consulted. All other current files and the bound volumes are kept in the newspaper stack room, which is directly below the reading room and extends for some distance along the front of the building. This contains a four-floor, fireproof stack capable of housing about twenty thousand newspaper volumes.

From the very beginning of the society's activities the importance of collecting and preserving the unprinted sources of history, and especially of the history of Minnesota has been recognized, with the result that the society now possesses a large and invaluable manuscript collection. When the transfer to the new building took place, a separate division was created to take care of this material and a room on the second floor (209) was set aside for its use. Since then the work of cleaning, pressing, arranging, filing, and cataloguing the material has been pushed forward rapidly, so that, in spite of large accessions during this period, most of the collection is now available for consultation by students.

A considerable portion of the manuscript collection consists of correspondence and other personal papers of men who have played a prominent part in the history of Minnesota—such men, for example, as Henry H. Sibley, Alexander Ramsey, Franklin Steele, and Ignatius Donnelly. The papers of a large number of men of less prominence are included, however, and these are often fully as valuable as the others, particularly to the student of social and economic conditions. Besides the personal papers, which are usually kept together in a chronological arrangement, there is a large mass of material which is classified by sub-



jects. This includes individual manuscripts such as letters, journals, reminiscences, genealogies, and monographs; and collections, large and small, of the papers and records of organizations of all sorts, such as military companies, commercial firms, churches, clubs, and societies.

The unbound material in the manuscript collection is filed flat in manila folders placed vertically in specially constructed dust-proof and light-proof filing boxes. These boxes are arranged on the shelves in the order of the classification, together with the bound volumes, such as letter-books, account-books, and diaries. Because of insufficient space in the manuscript room some of the less used groups are kept in the bookstack. It is expected that ultimately the more valuable groups of papers will be mounted and bound into volumes, and many of the older documents will have to be reparied and reinforced with mousseline.

The catalogue of the manuscripts contains donor, author, title, and subject cards, and a few of the collections have been calendared; that is, cards have been made for individual letters or documents with brief statements upon them of the contents of the items. These cards are filed in chronological order and supply a sort of table of contents to the collections. Such calendars, when completed and indexed, will greatly facilitate the work of the investigator. The manuscript room is open to

the public and contains tables for the use of students and workers. Some of these tables, which are covered with plate glass, are used also for frequently changed exhibits of interesting groups of manuscripts.

The collections of the division are supplemented by a calendar, containing at present about twenty-five thousand cards, of manuscript materials relating to the upper Mississippi region in the archives of the state, interior, and post-office departments of the federal government. The compilation of this calendar has been made possible by the coöperation of the historical agencies of six northwestern states, and the work is being continued in other sections of the national archives. It is expected that ultimately transcripts or photostat copies will be obtained of the more important documents here listed as far as they relate to Minnesota.

The manuscript collection has been built up almost entirely by contributions from public spirited citizens who have recognized the society as the proper custodian of such material and have welcomed the opportunity it offers for the permanent preservation of papers relating to themselves, their relatives, and the organizations with which they have been connected. Many important collections of manuscripts of value for the history of the state are still in private hands, however, and others are constantly accumulating. The owners and cus-



todians of such collections are urged to deposit them with the society, which is in a position to preserve them for posterity and to make them accessible to students. When necessary, material is accepted with reasonable restrictions as to the use to be made of it. The possession of a photostat enables the society to make for its files reproductions of valuable documents with which the owners are unwilling to part.

THE PUBLIC ARCHIVES

The most obvious source for the history of any organization is its official archives—the records and papers which are compiled or accumulate in the course of its activities-and this is true no less of the state and its subdivisions, the counties, towns, and cities, than of organizations of a private character. It is quite in accord with the objects of the society, as specified in its charter, therefore, that it has devoted considerable attention of late to the problems involved in the care of noncurrent state and local archives and in making them accessible to students of history. All the European countries and some of the American states make provision for the assembling of noncurrent records from the various departments and local jurisdictions in some place where they may be classified and cared for by experts.

In Minnesota the most satisfactory solution appeared to be the designation of the historical society as the official custodian of such material, and the first step in that direction was taken when the legislature of 1915 provided that the Historical Building should be erected "for and adapted to the use of the Minnesota historical society and for the care, preservation and protection of the state archives." During 1915 the society cooperated with the public archives commission of the American Historical Association in securing the compilation of an inventory of the Minnesota archives, which was published in the Annual Report of the association for 1914 (Washington, 1916), and which made clear the need for more adequate provision for the care of archival material. The legislature of 1919 enacted a law empowering the society to act as custodian of state and local archives and authorizing the transfer to it of noncurrent public records whenever it is prepared to receive them.

The society cannot undertake archives work on a large scale until more space is available in the building for workrooms and storage, and funds are available to pay for the services of an archivist and assistants. When that time comes it is expected that a separate archives division will be established. In the meantime, however, a beginning has been made in the transfer of important state archives to the custody of the society, where they are being cared



for at present by the manuscript division. About six hundred pasteboard boxes full of executive archives and twenty bound volumes of executive registers and similar material have been received from the governor's office. Of this collection practically all the papers dating from the beginning of the territory in 1849 to 1860—an invaluable group for historical purposes-have been cleaned, pressed, arranged, and filed, and are now available for use by students. Other archival material in the custody of the society includes the records of the surveyors general of logs and lumber for the first and second districts and a number of small groups and miscellaneous items. The society is prepared to receive and care for comparatively small lots of public records, state or local, preference being given to material which is of special historical value or which cannot be adequately cared for in present depositories.

THE MUSEUM

The sources of history consist not merely of printed and written material but also of physical objects and pictures which help to reproduce the life and conditions of the past. The collection, preservation, and display of this class of material is the function of the society's museum. The whole of the third or top floor of the new building, consisting of four large

exhibition halls, several storage closets and an office, was designed for the use of the museum. The rooms are lighted from above, with all glare and shadow eliminated by the use of syenite glass, which diffuses the light. The south hall is used at present as an auditorium, in which are held the meetings of the society and of other societies and clubs, but the walls of the room are available for the display of portraits. The north hall is devoted to Indian and archaeological material, and the east and west halls contain the general historical exhibits. A part of the west hall is used at present as a workroom. Framed pictures are hung on the walls in all the rooms and also in the corridors.

The collections of the museum relate primarily to Minnesota but include also considerable material pertaining to other parts of the United States and to foreign countries. Particularly notable are the extensive collections in the field of American archaeology assembled by Alfred J. Hill, Theodore H. Lewis, Jacob V. Brower, the Reverend Edward C. Mitchell. and Newton H. Winchell. The general historical collection, although large and valuable. is somewhat haphazard in character, having been built up by gradual accumulation during the seventy years of the society's existence, but an attempt is now being made to round it out by systematic campaigns for material. Among the large objects of special interest are the first



printing press used in Minnesota, a hand loom, a Red River cart, and one of the first automobiles brought to the state. Classes of material which are fairly well represented include old-fashioned clothing, objects illustrative of domestic life, and World War specimens. The picture collection contains thousands of photographs, cuts, and prints, and about five hundred framed pictures, mostly portraits of men and women who have played a part in the history of the state. There is also an extensive collection of posters gathered mainly during the World War.

Most of the material in the museum has been contributed by members and friends of the society, for the available funds have been too limited to permit of purchases. Objects and pictures which illustrate methods and conditions now obsolete and which would therefore be valuable additions to the collections are to be found in almost every household, and the owners are invited to present them to the museum where their preservation will be assured and they will help the people of the present and the future to visualize the life of the past. Material of special value to the museum is sometimes accepted on deposit when the owner is unwilling to surrender title to it, particularly when there is a probability that it will ultimately become the property of the society.

Since the transfer of the museum to the new building and the appointment of a curator. rapid progress has been made in the classification and cataloguing of the collections. The unframed pictures are divided into groups by size, arranged by subject within each group, and placed in vertical files; and a card catalogue of the entire picture collection enables one quickly to ascertain its resources on any given subject or to locate a desired picture. The historical and archeological objects are recorded in an accession book, numbered, and provided with explanatory labels. No catalogue of this material is available as vet, but it is expected that one will be begun in the near future.

In the arrangement of exhibits the primary purpose is to interest and instruct the hundreds of people who visit the museum every week. The specimens are grouped in some logical or chronological manner and much historical information is conveyed by means of carefully written labels. Most of the large objects and some of the more significant of the smaller ones are kept on display permanently, but it is neither possible nor desirable to exhibit all the possessions of the museum at any one time. By occasional changes in the main groups and by the frequent display of special exhibits, often related to some current event or anniversary, the interest of the public is sustained and the educational possibilities are



increased. Material not on exhibition is kept in the large storage closets so arranged that it is readily available when wanted by investigators. Of the extensive archeological collection, much of which is of interest mainly to specialists, the greater part is kept in storage and only selections of typical or unusually interesting articles are exhibited. Only a part of the framed pictures, also, can be hung at any one time, and the unframed pictures are displayed as a rule only in special exhibits. For these the resources of the society's book and manuscript collections are frequently drawn upon also.

The work of the museum with school children is particularly promising. Teachers of courses in history, government, geography, domestic science, and other subjects are rapidly discovering the facilities which it offers for visual instruction, with the result that a large number of grade and high school classes, not only from the Twin Cities but also from other parts of the state, are brought to the museum to examine and study the collections. Twice a month during the school year, on the second and fourth Saturday afternoons at three o'clock, special museum talks for children in the grades from the fourth to the eighth inciusive are given by the curator or other members of the society's staff. These talks, which are very popular with the children, serve to arouse an interest in and an appreciation of the things of the past.

The museum is open to the public daily except Sundays and holidays, and occasionally provision is made for a holiday opening.

THE RESEARCH AND EDITORIAL DIVISION

Not content with the mere collection and preservation of the materials for history, the society has from the beginning promoted research to extend the boundaries of historical knowledge and disseminated historical information by the publication of original documents and narratives, monographs, papers, and compilations of data. The first publication, issued in 1850 with the title Annals of the Minnesota Historical Society, consisted of an address by the Reverend E. D. Neill on "The French Voyageurs to Minnesota in the Seventeenth Century" (28 p.). Similar Annals were published in each of the three succeeding years, and in 1856 a report submitted by the society to the legislature was issued as a territorial document with the title Materials for the Future History of Minnesota (141 p.), These publications were reprinted in 1872 as volume I of the Collections of the Minnesota Historical Society, and this series has been continued to the present day.



The Minnesota Historical Collections, as this series is commonly called, consist at present of seventeen volumes, of which one, volume 10, is bound in two parts, and one, volume 16, is still incomplete. Nine of these volumes are made up of miscellaneous documents, papers, sketches, and memoirs, and the remainder consist of monographs or special compilations as follows: 4, History of the City of St. Paul and the County of Ramsey, Minnesota, by J. Fletcher Williams (1876. 475 p.); 5, Histories of the Ojibway Indians, by William W. Warren and Edward D. Neill (1885. 535 p.); 7, The Mississippi River and Its Source, by Jacob V. Brower (1893. 360 p.); II, Itasca State Park, An Illustrated History, by the same author (1904. 285 p.); 13, Lives of the Governors of Minnesota, by James H. Baker (1908. 480 p.); 14, Minnesota Biographics, 1655-1912, by Warren Upham and Mrs. Rose B. Dunlap (1912. 892 p.); 16, part I. The Weathering of Aboriginal Stone Artifacts, No. 1, by Newton H. Winchell (1913. 186 p.); and 17, Minnesota Geographic Names, Their Origin and Historic Significance, by Warren Upham (1920, 735 p.). In the future the Collections will be reserved mainly for original material; and a number of series of volumes have been planned, to include all the important sources not elsewhere readily available in print for the various periods and phases of Minnesota's history.

A monograph on the Aborigines of Minnesota, by Newton H. Winchell (761 p.), not included in the Collections series, was published in 1911; and the society has in press at the present time the first volume of a three or four volume Critical History of Minnesota, by William W. Folwell. A quarterly magazine, the Minnesota History Bulletin, has been published since 1915. Each issue contains one or more papers or addresses and also reviews of books touching on Minnesota history, information about the activities of the society, and historical news and comment. Occasionally a section devoted to notes and documents is included. Annual reports to the legislature were published for the years from 1867 to 1878 inclusive, and these are followed by a series of twenty biennial reports.

The publications are sent regularly to all members and to libraries with which exchange relations have been established. The reports are distributed freely as long as the supply lasts, and copies of the other publications are available for purchase, with the exception of volume 4 of the *Collections*, which is out of print. Price lists will be supplied on application.

The preparation or revision of copy and the reading of proof for the various publications are the principal functions of the research and editorial division of the society. This division also undertakes, however, to compile informa-



tion on all sorts of historical problems in response to inquiries received by mail. Desiring to extend its service as widely as possible, the society welcomes such inquiries, especially when they involve the use of material not generally available and come from people unable to use the resources of the society in person.

FIELD WORK

This society was among the first to undertake a systematic survey of its field for the purpose of bringing to light scattered and hitherto undiscovered, little known, or neglected sources of historical information, and of arousing a more general and active interest in state and local history. A field agent was employed in this work from September, 1916, to the end of 1917, and during this period about thirty-five communities in twenty-four counties were visited. The pressure of other more immediately essential tasks and the lack of funds necessitated the suspension of this work during 1918 and the following years but it will be resumed at the first opportunity.

The work of the field agent centered about the task of making comprehensive inventories of the archives of the counties of the state, as found in their courthouses, with notes on the condition of the records and the methods of making and preserving them. These inventories were completed for sixteen of the eighty-six counties of Minnesota. When the remainder of the counties have been covered the inventories will be published, and it is hoped that the resulting volume will serve, not only as a useful guide book for those who have occasion to consult the records, whether for historical or other purposes, but also as a starting point for a movement to improve the administration of county archives.

The field agent endeavored also to discover and list extant files of local newspapers in the places visited in order that the newspaper material available to workers in Minnesota history might be supplemented either through accessions to the society's collection or through centralized information about files to be found in the localities. Search was also made for manuscripts and museum objects of historical value in private hands, with a view to acquiring or at least locating and listing them. In each community an endeavor was made to arouse in as many people as possible an appreciation of the value and possibilities of local historical work, with the object of securing their interest and cooperation and of paving the way for the establishment of county historical societies.

WAR HISTORY ACTIVITIES

From the very beginning of American participation in the war, the various departments of the society made special efforts to acquire.



along with material normally secured in the course of their regular procedure, as many as possible of the special products of war-time activities and conditions. It soon became evident, however, that a mere extension of the historical society's normal activities would not suffice, but that what was needed was a regular war-time drive, carried on by a state-wide organization, specially created, named, and financed for the purpose. In August, 1918, therefore, the Minnesota Commission of Public Safety, at the suggestion of the society, authorized the establishment of and provided funds for a Minnesota War Records Commission. the members of which were appointed by the Governor. The superintendent of the society was chairman of the commission, its field agent served as director, and office space was provided in the Historical Building. The legislature of 1919 established the commission as a statutory body and appropriated ten thousand dollars, for its work during the biennium 1010-21.

Plans have been made for the ultimate compilation and publication of an elaborate history of Minnesota in the war, to include rosters, documents, and a general narrative; but the available funds are insufficient for undertaking this at the present time. The immediate task which the Minnesota War Records Commission set for itself, therefore, was that of bringing about the collection and preser-

vation of all available material relating to Minnesota in the war. To this end war records committees have been established in nearly all the counties of the state, to make local collections for preservation in the counties and to cooperate with the commission in building up the state collection. The commission is acquiring the state headquarters files of official correspondence, records, and reports of many of the various war agencies such as the United States Employment Service, the Y. M. C. A. War Council, and the War Camp Community Service, and also large quantities of private and semiprivate material. Comprehensive forms for individual service records have been printed and, through the cooperation of the Soldier's Bonus Board, these forms have been filled out by all but a very small percentage of Minnesota men in the service.

All this material will ultimately be added to the files of the Minnesota Historical Society, which is designated by the law establishing the commission as the official custodian of the state war records collection. The commission has also coöperated with the library of the society in procuring printed matter relating to the war, including especially the miscellany which formed a part of the working paraphernalia of every war organization; and it has coöperated with the museum in building up its collection of war material such as posters.



photographs, 'motion picture films, lantern slides, and military equipment and trophies.

Two bulletins published by the commission and available for free distribution give detailed information about its activities and plans. These are entitled: A Statewide Movement for the Collection and Preservation of Minnesota's War Records; and Minnesota's Part in the War, Shall It Be Adequately Recorded? The latter contains a discussion of and a tentative outline for the proposed war history.

[HANDBOOK SERIES No. 2]

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HANDBOOK

[Second Edition]



SAINT PAUL
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY
AUGUST, 1921



OFFICERS

FREDERIC A. FOGG, President
WILLIAM W. FOLWELL, First Vice President
FREDERICK G. INGERSOLL, Second Vice President
Solon J. Buck, Secretary
EVERETT H. BAILEY, Treasurer

The executive committee consists of the president, the secretary, the treasurer, and two appointed members, Edward P. Sanborn, and Frederick G. Ingersoll.

ADMINISTRATION

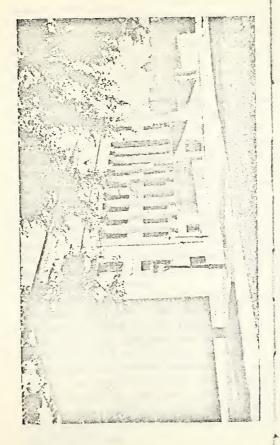
Solon J. Buck, Superintendent
Warren Upham, Archeologist
Wilhelmina E. Carothers, Librarian
John Talman, Newspaper Librarian
Grace Lee Nute, Curator of Manuscripts
Willoughby M. Babcock Jr., Curator of th
Museum.

CECIL W. SHIRK, Field Secretary.

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HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Minnesota Historical Society was formally organized on November 15, 1849, in the office of Charles Kilgore Smith, secretary of the Territory of Minnesota. Alexander Ramsey was elected president and Mr. Smith secretary. The first territorial legislature had already passed and Governor Ramsey on October 20 had signed an act of incorporation drawn up by Mr. Smith. The object of the society as stated in this act was "the collection and preservation of a Library . Indian curiosities and other matters and things connected with, and calculated to illustrate and perpetuate the history and settlement" Minnesota Territory. An amendent to this act, approved March 1, 1856, further provided that: "The objects of said Society shall be, in addition to the collection and preservation of publications, manuscripts, antiquities, curiosities, and all other things pertaining to the social, political and natural history of Minnesota, to cultivate among the citizens thereof a knowledge of the useful and liberal arts, science and literature."

The principal activities of the society during the fifties consisted of the holding of meet-



ings at which papers were read and the publication of a series of pamphlets called Annals. A beginning was made in the accumulation of a library, however, and in 1855 a room in the capitol was set aside for the use of the society. In the following year its public character was further recognized by an act of the territorial legislature authorizing an annual grant of five hundred dollars to aid in carrying on the work. An attempt was made during this period to raise money by subscription and the sale of life memberships for the erection of a building for the society. A site on the corner of Wabasha and Tenth streets was purchased, the foundation walls were completed, and in 1856 the corner stone was laid with imposing ceremonies. The necessary funds for the completion of the building could not be secured because of the Panic of 1857. but the lots purchased for the site proved to be a valuable investment.

With the outbreak of the Civil War the appropriation from the state was cut off, soon thereafter the room in the capitol was requisitioned for other purposes, and for about two years the society was inactive. In 1863 a reorganization was effected however, the appropriation was restored by the next legislature and from 1864 to 1868 the society occupied a room adjoining the St. Paul Public Library in the Ingersoll Block on the corner of Wabasha and Third Streets.

The man who laid the real foundations of the society, and particularly of its library, was J. Fletcher Williams, who was elected secretary in 1867 and who served in that capacity until 1892. In 1868 quarters were again secured in the capitol, and in 1869 the appropriation from the state was increased to two thousand dollars a year, thus making it possible for Mr. Williams to devote himself entirely to the work. The library, which consisted of about three thousand books and pamphlets in 1868, increased, by gift and purchase, to over twenty thousand in 1881, newspaper files were systematically accumulated. and a considerable museum of archeological and historical objects was assembled. The appropriation was raised to \$2,500 in 1871, to \$3,000 in 1876, and to \$4,000 in 1881.

In March, 1881, the capitol building was burned to the ground. Fortunately for the society its rooms were located in the basement, which made possible the removal of practically all the main library; and most of the newspaper files, which were in a fireproof vault, were saved. Some valuable newspapers, the entire museum, and over twenty thousand volumes of duplicates, mostly state documents, and of stock of the society's publications were destroyed, however.

For two years the society occupied rooms in the basement of the Market House, on the corner of Wabasha and Seventh streets, after



which it was installed in the new capitol erected on the site of the old. There it remained until 1905, when it took possession of somewhat more commodious quarters in the present capitol building. The annual appropriation from the state was further increased in 1883 to \$6,000, in 1899 to \$7,500, in 1901 to \$11,000, in 1903 to \$15,000, in 1905 to \$20,000. in 1917 to \$25,000, and in 1921 to \$40,000. From 1883 on, the library grew steadily at the rate of about three thousand books and pamphlets a year, the museum was built up anew, and a valuable manuscript collection was accumulated. The long term of Mr. Williams as secretary was almost equalled by that of Warren Upham, who served the society faithfully in that capacity from 1895 to 1914 and who now The preholds the position of archeologist. sent secretary, Solon J. Buck, was elected in 1914.

Among the presidents and other officers of the society have been many men of prominence in Minnesota history, such as Alexander Ramsey, Henry H. Sibley, Henry M. Rice, John B. Sanborn, Cushman K. Davis, Archbishop Ireland, and James J. Hill.

ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP

The form of organization of the society is determined by the act of incorporation and amendments thereto, and by a set of by-laws.

which was revised and consolidated in March, 1915. Its government is vested in an executive council composed of the govenor of the state and five other state officers, ex officio, and thirty life members chosen by ballot every three years at an annual meeting of the society. There is an executive committee composed of the president, the secretary, the treasurer, and two other members of the council appointed by the president, which transacts the business of the society under the direction and subject to the approval of the executive council. The officers of the council, who are also the officers of the society, are a president, two vice presidents, a secretary, and a treasurer. They are elected by the council for a term of three years. The secretary is, ex officio, the superintendent of the society and as such is charged, under the direction of the executive committee or the council, with the administration of all its activities.

The financial support of the society comes mainly from the state, the appropriation for the current biennium, 1921-23, being forty thousand dollars a year. There is also an income of about six thousand dollars from private endowment funds. and membership fees bring in a small additional amount. The society has urgent need of a larger income and solicits gifts or bequests. For the latter, the following form is suggested: "I give, devise, and bequeath to the Minnesota Historical



Society, a corporation duly incorporated by the Territory of Minnesota and located in the city of St. Paul in the state of Minnesota, the sum of dollars, the same to be utifized for the general purposes of the said society." If it is the devisor's intention that the sum bequeathed should be devoted to some specific purpose, that purpose should be clearly and definitely stated. The officers of the society are prepared to make suggestions as to such purposes, some of which are especially suitable for memorial donations or bequests.

Membership in the society is of four classes: honorary, corresponding, active, and institutional. Honorary members are "persons distinguished for their literary or scientific attainments, particularly in the field of American history"; corresponding members are "persons residing outside the state, who manifest an interest in the society and its objects. and are willing to aid it by representing it in their vicinity, and procuring donations for its library and museum." Honorary and corresponding members are admitted through election by the executive council, but the only requisites for admission to active or institutional memberships are application and the payment of dues.

The active members are grouped in five classes: patrons, who have contributed one thousand dollars or more to the permanent fund of the society or are making annual

contributions of fifty dollars or more; contributing-life members, who contribute five dollars or more a year in addition to the life membership fee; life members, whose fee is twenty-five dollars; sustaining members at five dollars a year, who become life members after six payments; and annual members at two dollars a year, who become life members after twenty payments. Active membership carries with it the privilege of participating in the business meetings of the society and of receiving its publications. Everyone who is interested in promoting historical work in Minnesota is cordially invited to become an active member. Application blanks will be furnished on request.

Institutional membership is open to "any club, society, or association in Minnesota interested in any phase of the history of the state or any part of the state." Such members are grouped in three classes: permanent institutional members, who pay one hundred dollars in advance; sustaining institutional members, whose annual dues are ten dollars; and annual institutional members, whose dues are two dollars a year. Sustaining institutional members may be transferred to permanent membership when they have contributed an aggregate of one hundred and twenty dollars. Institutional membership carries with it the privileges of being represented at all meetings of the society by one delegate with the



right to vote, of receiving the publications, and also of making annual reports to the society on the historical activities of the member. This form of membership, which was established in April, 1921, is designed to coördinate all historical activities in the state, by providing for the affiliation with the state historical society of such organizations as chapters of hereditary patriotic societies, study clubs, and local and special historical societies.

The annual meetings of the society are held on the second Monday in January, except in legislative years when they occur on the second Monday after the assembling of the legislature. Public sessions for the reading of papers and conferences on historical problems are held in connection with these meetings. and an annual address is delivered on some historical topic of general interest. council holds two stated meetings each year. and these also furnish occasion, as a rule, for open sessions for the reading of historical papers. All these meetings are held in the Historical Building, but plans are being developed for annual summer meetings of a social and educational character to be held each year at a different place.

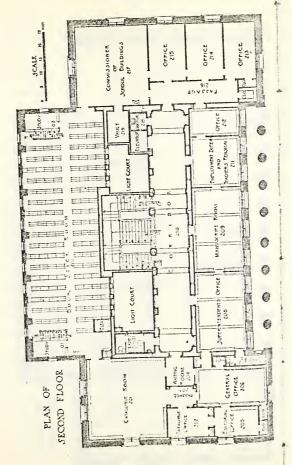
THE HISTORICAL BUILDING

The present building, which is located on a stack.

on the northeast corner of Cedar Street and Central Avenue, St. Paul, was authorized by an act of the legislature of 1913, five hundred thousand dollars being appropriated for the purpose. The work of construction was not commenced, however, until December, 1915, because it was found necessary to have the act amended by the legislature of 1915. The building was practically completed by December, 1917, and the work of moving was begun immediately. The reading room was opened to the public on January 16, and the formal dedication of the building took place on May 11, 1918, in connection with the eleventh annual meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, which convened in St. Paul, May 9, 10, and 11, at the invitation of the society.

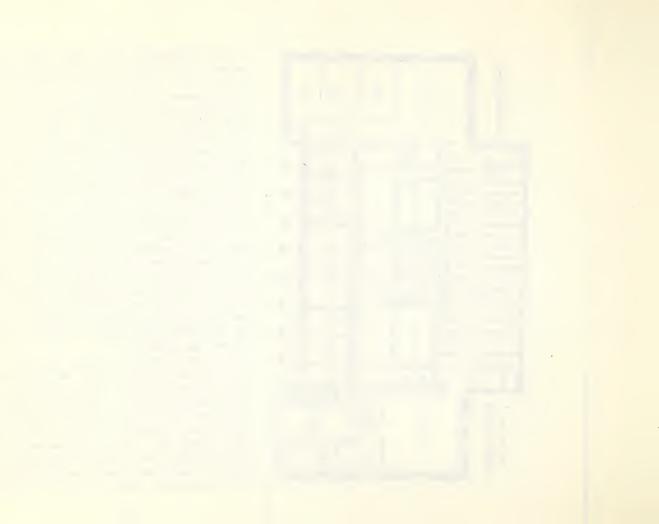
The building contains five floors. The south end of the basement and ground floors are occupied by the library division of the state department of education. In the basement are located the janitors' and engineer's rooms, and the heating and ventilating machinery. On the ground floor are the photostat room, a kitchenette and rest room for the staff, and the shipping and receiving room of the society, part of which serves temporarily as the office of the Minnesota War Records Commission. Portions of both lower floors are also occupied by the main bookstack and the newspaper stack.

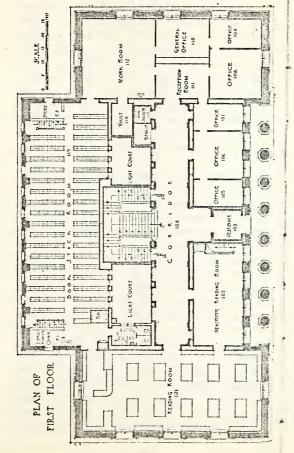




The accompanying floor plans show the location of the various rooms on the first and second floors. The department of education occupies rooms on the south end as well as a few adjacent rooms on the west side of both floors (105-112 and 211-217). On the first floor are the newspaper reading room (102) and the main reading room (101), both opening off from the central corridor, and connected with each other by an interior doorway. The librarian's office (E 1) and the lowest floor of the bookstack so far completed are reached through the east end of the reading room. On the second floor are the manuscript room (209), the superintendent's office (208), the general office (206), the editorial office (205), and the catalogue and accessions rooms (201, 202), all connected with each other by interior doorways, and all, except the manuscript room, reached from the main corridor through room 204. The entire third floor is occupied by the museum and galleries.

The main entrance from the street leads to the first floor; the two small entrances on either side of the steps of the main entrance lead to the ground floor. A passenger elevator gives service to all floors, and the main bookstack is equipped with an automatic service elevator. There are also two automatic book lifts, one in the main stack room, which serves also the shipping and catalogue rooms, and one in the newspaper stack room which extends





to the newspaper reading room above. The service driveway in the rear is accessible to the shipping and receiving room of the historical society at the north end on the ground floor, and to the shipping rooms of the department of education at the south end on the basement floor.

The exterior walls of the building are constructed of warm gray granite, quarried at Sauk Rapids, Minnesota; the marble of the main staircase and of the floors of the corridors and stackrooms is from quarries at Kasota, Minnesota; and the stone for the walls of the vestibule and entrance hall on the first floor is from deposits at Frontenac, Minnesota. The style of architecture is Roman Renaissance reduced to its simplest elements, the central motive being an Ionic colonnade projected over a recessed loggia.

THE MAIN LIBRARY

The main library contains at present about 150,000 printed books and pamphlets, not including newspapers, which are administered in a separate division. It endeavors, first of all, to maintain a complete Minnesota collection consisting of all books, pamphlets, and miscellaneous printed matter relating in any way to the state. This includes official publications of state, county, and city departments and institutions; publications of semiofficial or private



societies, organizations, and business establishments; periodicals issued in Minnesota, of which over two hundred, exclusive of newspapers, are currently received; works by Minnesota authors; and publications about the state, its subdivisions, physical features, citizens, institutions, and organizations. Current material is acquired as well as that relating to the past. This Minnesota collection occupies a separate portion of the bookstack, where it may be conveniently consulted by any one desiring to study the state in any of its various aspects.

The field of Americana is so large that the library cannot attempt to cover it fully. So far as available funds will permit, however, all important works in general American history and a somewhat more comprehensive selection of books relating to the upper Mississippi Valley and Great Lakes region are acquired. The library is an official depository for the publications of the United States government, and its collection of the documents of other states supplements that of the State Library. particularly for the period prior to 1881. Special subjects in the field of Americana for which the library has well-rounded collections are geology, archeology, Indians, biography. travel and description, local history, political science, economics, and education. On two subjects the library aims to have practically complete collections of available material. These

are American genealogy and the history of the Scandinavian element in the United States.

The collection of genealogical material ranks among the best of its kind in the country. Besides a large number of family histories, it includes files of practically all the genealogical magazines, many sets of collected genealogies, files of the publications of the hereditary patriotic societies, and many volumes of vital records. The various printed indexes which guide the investigator are included, and much supplementary material is available in individual biographies, the publications of historical societies, published archives and military records, and a notable collection of town, county, and state histories. Both amateur and professional genealogists are constantly at work in the library, and from it has been drawn the evidence to support innumerable applications for admission to hereditary patriotic societies.

The society has recently begun to devote special attention to the history of the Scandinavian element in the United States. In order to avoid duplication, an agreement was made with the board of regents of the University of Minnesota by which the university library will acquire material relating to the Scandinavian languages and literatures and to the history of the Scandinavian countries themselves, and the historical society will collect material relating to these nationalities in the United States.



In accord with this agreement the university library in 1916 transferred to the society its extensive and valuable O. N. Nelson collection; in 1918 the society acquired another large collection from Professor Gisle Bothne of the University of Minnesota; and in March, 1921, it was made the permanent depository for the library of the Swedish Historical Society of America, a collection of about six thousand items relating to Swedish men and institutions in America or written by Swedish-Americans. About fifty Scandinavian-American newspapers and periodicals from all parts of the United States are being received currently, and many back volumes have been acquired from various sources. The society has had the aid of Scandinavian experts in the bibliographical work of building up this collection, and there are usually on the staff one or two assistants with a knowledge of the languages to help in caring for it. With the acquisition of the library of the Swedish Historical Society of America, the collection has become, it is believed, the most complete of its kind in the country.

Outside the field of Americana the present policy of the library is to maintain select reference collections rather than to build up comprehensive collections for research purposes. The various encyclopedias, indexes, and other standard reference works will be found on the shelves, and the most important books relating

to foreign countries are acquired as far as possible. Works in the scientific field are not collected except on subjects closely related to history, such as geology and anthropology. Books of fiction are also excluded unless they have historical value or are the products of Minnesota authors. But since the limits of collection were less restricted in the past, when the output of books was smaller, and since all sorts of works have been received as gifts, rare and curious items on almost every conceivable subject may be found in the library.

Fully two-thirds of the current acquisitious come in as exchanges or gifts. Nearly all the historical societies, the principal universities. and many other institutions of the United States and Canada, and a few in other countries send their publications to the society in exchange for its publications; and much valuable material is acquired by the exchange of duplicates with other large libraries. Countless individuals and organizations all over the country present copies of their publications in order that they may be preserved in the library and made accessible to the public. Members and friends of the society frequently turn over to it accumulations of books, pamphlets, and periodicals which they do not care to retain, and such contributions are earnestly solicited. No one need hesitate to present material for fear that it will not be wanted, because such of it



as proves to be duplicated in the library or outside of its field can nearly always be disposed of to advantage by exchange with other institutions.

THE REFERENCE DEPARTMENT

The resources of the library are free to the public and are available through the reading Application for all books, room service. pamphlets, periodicals, and maps should be made at the desk in the main reading room (101), which is open from 8:30 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. every day except Sundays and holidays. It is hoped that it will be possible to keep the room open evenings in the near future. Many of the more important reference works, such as genealogical sets, dictionaries, encyclopedias, atlases, and periodical indexes, are placed in open shelves around the room. One section of shelves, is filled with a collection of recent books of general interest, which is constantly being renewed. Beside it is a section used for exhibitions of books on special subjects of current interest.

A list of the books in the library will be found in the card catalogue, which is in cases at the east end of the room. By means of this catalogue the books in the library may be located. In each drawer of the case will be found a card of instructions with "How to use this catalogue" printed in red on the projecting of

tab. By following the directions on this card it is a simple matter to ascertain whether or not the library has a specific book or what books it has on a given subject and to secure the desired material. The attendants at the desk will gladly give advice and suggestions about the use of the catalogue and of reference books, but patrons are expected to make out their own call slips for books and to do the actual work of investigation themselves. The librarian will be glad to assist, as far as possible, in the solution of problems involving especial difficulties, and she will be summoned by the attendant when necessary.

The collections of the library are primarily for use in the building, but books not frequently used in reference work and not difficult to replace if lost may be borrowed by responsible persons for home or office use. An extension of the service of the library is made possible through the system of interlibrary loans. The librarian will, when requested, endeavor to borrow from some outside library books needed for research purposes which are not available in any of the libraries of the Twin Cities. In such cases the user must pay transportation charges and the books may not be taken from the building. Inquiries by mail or telephone for information that can readily be found in the reference books of the library are answered by the librarian with as much dispatch as circumstances will permit,



The privilege of consulting books in the stack is extended, on application at the desk, to competent persons who can furnish satisfactory references. The stack room occupies four full stories on the east side of the building from the basement to the second-floor ceiling and encloses an eight-tier, enameled-steel, self-supporting bookstack with a capacity of 384,000 volumes. The shelving and floors for the four lower tiers have not been installed as yet. At the entrance to each floor is a schedule giving the locations of books on all the floors. The individual sections of the stack are also labeled on the ends with the classification numbers. Black type on these labels indicates the Cutter classification, and red, that of the Library of Congress. A distinction is also made in the labels on the backs of the books; round labels are used for the Cutter and rectangular ones for the Library of Congress classification. (See page 28.) A few private studies on the floors of the bookstack are available for persons engaged in extensive research.

THE ACCESSIONS AND CATALOGUE DEPARTMENTS

To the accessions department belongs the work of acquiring additions to the library, either by purchase, exchange, or gift. Books to be purchased are selected mainly from catalogues issued by publishers and by dealers in remainders and second-hand books and from reviews in historical periodicals. Before ordering an item it is usually necessary to consult the catalogue, a current-receipts file, and the outstanding orders in order to prevent duplication. Extensive correspondence is conducted to secure the exchange material to which the society is entitled and to establish new exchange relations. Many letters are written to the authors of privately printed books asking for presentation copies and to publishers of magazines and reports asking that the society's name be placed on the complimentary mailing list.

All books and pamphlets arriving at the library go first to the accessions department where they are checked on the bills and records, or acknowledged if they are gifts, and entered in the current-receipts file. Incoming periodicals and serial publications, of which the society receives over two thousand, exclusive of newspapers, are checked in a card record, and constant vigilance is necessary to prevent gaps in the files of this material. The accessions department also prepares books and periodicals for binding. This involves the preparation of instructions for the binder, collation to insure perfect copies, and, frequently, correspondence to obtain title-pages and indexes. When the volumes return from the bindery they are checked on the binder's bill and



examined to see that the instructions have been followed

After leaving the accessions department, books go to the catalogue department for classifying, cataloguing, and shelving. progress of a book through this department is frequently a long and complicated process. Author, title, and subject cards are prepared for the public catalogue in the reading room, and author cards for the official catalogue. One card is also made for the shelf list, which is a file of cards arranged in the order in which the books stand on the shelves; and special catalogues are maintained of serials, of items printed in Minnesota before 1880, arranged by place and date of printing, and of the library of the Swedish Historical Society of America. If a book covers several different, subjects or is written by several authors, a larger number of cards are necessary. Many problems as to names; dates, editions, and series numbers have to be solved by the cataloguers. Printed catalogue cards for many of the books are purchased from the Library of Congress. An alphabetical file of cards printed by the Library of Congress since July, 1915, is maintained in the catalogue room, and this valuable bibliographical aid may be consulted by any one interested. The system of classification now used is that of the Library of Congress, which is especially suited to a library composed largely of Americana. An exception is made, however, in the case of United States documents, most of which are arranged according to a scheme devised by the superintendent of documents in Washington. Books received before 1915 were classified according to the Cutter system, but these are gradually being reclassified.

THE NEWSPAPER DIVISION

One of the most valuable parts of the society's library is the collection of Minnesota newspapers numbering about twelve thousand bound volumes and ranking among the half dozen largest and best-cared-for newspaper collections in the country. Most of the files are complete from the beginning of the paper, and organs presenting various points of view can be found for every period from the first appearance of the press in the state in 1849 to the present. This collection is an invaluable source of information for state and local history and is much used by research workers. It is also consulted frequently by attorneys for legal evidence, especially with reference to the publication of notices. At present about four hundred papers, including at least one from every county in the state, are received regularly as contributions from the publishers, and back files of papers not received as issued are occasionally acquired. With reference to papers published outside the state, no attempt is made



to rival the great collection of the Wisconsin Historical Society, but the library possesses long files of a number of important papers, and the current issues of about a dozen of the principal dailies representative of different sections of the country are turned over to the division for preservation by the Minneapolis public and university libraries.

The newspaper reading room (102) is equipped with special racks for holding the volumes while they are being consulted and contains a cabinet for the current files of the daily papers most frequently consulted. All other current files and the bound volumes are kept in the newspaper stack room, which is directly below the reading room and extends for some distance along the front of the building. This contains a four-floor, fireproof stack capable of housing about twenty thousand newspaper volumes.

THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

From the very beginning of the society's activities the importance of collecting and preserving the unprinted sources of history, and especially of the history of Minnesota has been recognized, with the result that the society now possesses a large and invaluable manuscript collection. When the transfer to the new building took place, a separate division was created to take care of this material and

a room on the second floor (209) was set aside for its use. Since then the work of cleaning, pressing, arranging, filing, and cataloguing the material has been pushed forward rapidly, so that, in spite of large accessions during this period, most of the collection is now available for consultation by students.

A considerable portion of the manuscript collections consists of correspondence and other personal papers of men who have played a prominent part in the history of Minnesotasuch men, for example, as Henry H. Sibley. Alexander Ramsey, Franklin Steele, and Ignatius Donnelly. The papers of a large number of men of less prominence are included, however, and these are often fully as valuable as the others, particularly to the student of social and economic conditions. Besides the personal papers, which are usually kept together in a chronological arrangement, there is a large mass of material which is classified by subjects. This includes individual manuscripts such as letters, journals, reminiscences, genealogies, and monographs; and collections, large and small, of the papers and records of organizations of all sorts, such as military companies, commercial firms, churches, clubs, and societies.

The unbound material in the manuscript collection is filed flat in manila folders placed vertically in specially constructed dust-proof and light-proof filing boxes. These boxes are



arranged on the shelves in the order of the classification, together with the bound volumes, such as letter-books, account-books, and diaries. Because of insufficient space in the manuscript room some of the less-used groups are kept in the bookstack. It is expected that ultimately the more valuable groups of papers will be mounted and bound into volumes, and many of the older documents will have to be repaired and reënforced with mousseline.

The catalogue of the manuscripts contains donor, author, title, and subject cards, and a few of the collections have been calendared; that is, cards have been made for individual letters or documents with brief statements upon them of the contents of the items. These cards are filed in chronological order and supply a sort of table of contents to the collections. Such calendars, when completed and indexed, will greatly facilitate the work of the investigator. The manuscript room is open to the public and contains tables for the use of students and workers. Some of these tables, which are covered with plate glass, are used also for frequently changed exhibits of interesting groups of manuscripts.

The collections of the division are supplemented by a calendar, containing at present about thirty thousand cards, of manuscript materials relating to the upper Mississippi region in the archives of the state, interior, and

post-office departments of the federal government. The compilation of this calendar has been made possible by the coöperation of the historical agencies of six northwestern states, and the work is being continued in other sections, of the national archives. It is expected that ultimately transcripts or photostat copies will be obtained of the more important documents here listed which relate to Minnesota.

The manuscript collection has been built up almost entirely by contributions from publicspirited citizens who have recognized the society as the proper custodian of such material and have welcomed the opportunity it offers for the permanent preservation of papers relating to themselves, their relatives, and the organizations with which they have been connected. Many important collections of manuscripts of value for the history of the state are still in private hands, however, and others are constantly accumulating. The owners and custodians of such collections are urged to deposit them with the society, which is in a position to preserve them for posterity and to make them accessible to students. When necessary, material is accepted with reasonable restrictions as to the use to be made of it. The possession of a photostat enables the society to make for its files reproductions of valuable documents with which the owners are unwilling to part.



THE PUBLIC ARCHIVES

The most obvious source for the history of any organization is its official archives-the records and papers which are compiled or accumulate in the course of its activities-and this is true no less of the state and its subdivisions, the counties, towns, and cities, than of organizations of a private character. quite in accord with the objects of the society, as specified in its charter, therefore, that it has devoted considerable attention of late to the problems involved in caring for noncurrent state and local archives and making them accessible to students of history. All the European countries and some of the American states make provision for the assembling of noncurrent records from the various departments and local jurisdictions in some place where they may be classified and cared for by experts.

In Minnesota the most satisfactory solution appeared to be the designation of the historical society as the official custodian of such material, and the first step in that direction was taken when the legislature of 1915 provided that the Historical Building should be erected "for and adapted to the use of the Minnesota historical society and for the care, preservation and protection of the state archives."

During 1915 the society cooperated with the public archives commission of the American

Historical Association in securing the compilation of an inventory of the Minnesota archives, which was published in the Annual Report of the association for 1914 (Washington, 1916), and which made clear the need for more adequate provision for the care of archival material. The legislature of 1919 enacted a law empowering the society to act as custodian of state and local archives, and authorizing the transfer to it of noncurrent public records whenever it is prepared to receive them.

In accordance with this act most of the older and historically important archives of the offices of the governor and the secretary of state, some files from the offices of the adjutant general and the department of education, and all the records of a number of offices and commissions no longer in existence are now in the custody of the society. The proper cleaning, pressing, sorting, filing, and listing of this material cannot be accomplished until more space is available in the building for workrooms and for shelving, and until funds are available to pay for the services of an archivist and assistants. When that time comes it is expected that a separate archives division will be established. In the meantime, however, the material is being cared for by the manuscript division; and two groups which are invaluable for historical purposes—the legislative papers for the territorial period, 1849 to 1857, from the office of the secretary of state, and the



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governor's archives dating from 1849 to 1869—are now in shape for convenient consultation by students. The society is prepared to receive and care for comparatively small lots of public records, state or local, preference being given to material which is of special historical value or which cannot be adequately cared for in present depositories.

THE MUSEUM

The sources of history consist not merely of printed and written material but also of physical objects and pictures which help to reproduce the life and conditions of the past. The collection, preservation, and display of this class of material is the function of the society's museum. The whole of the third or top floor of the new building, consisting of four large exhibition halls, several storage closets, and an office, was designed for the use of the museum. The rooms are lighted from above, with all glare and shadow eliminated by the use of syenite glass, which diffuses the light. The south hall is used at present as an auditorium, in which are held the meetings of the society and of other societies and clubs, but the walls of the room are available for the display of portraits. Organizations are welcome to the use of this room without charge, but arrangements must be made in advance. The north hall is devoted to Indian and archeological material, and the east and west halls contain the general historical exhibits. A part of the east hall is used at present as a workroom. Framed pictures are hung on the walls in all the rooms and also in the corridors.

The collections of the museum relate primarily to Minnesota but include also considerable material pertaining to other parts of the United States and to foreign countries. Particularly notable are the extensive collections in the field of American archeology assembled by Alfred J. Hill, Theodore H. Lewis, Jacob V. Brower, the Reverend Edward C. Mitchell, and Newton H. Winchell. The general historical collection, although large and valuable, is somewhat haphazard in character, having been built up by gradual accumulation during the seventy years of the society's existence, but an attempt is now being made to round it out by systematic campaigns for material. Among the large objects of special interest are the first printing press used in Minnesota, a hand loom. a Red River cart, and one of the first automobiles brought to the state. Classes of material which are fairly well represented include oldfashioned clothing, objects illustrative of domestic life, and World War specimens. The picture collection contains thousands of photographs, cuts, and prints, and about five hundred framed pictures, mostly portraits of men and women who have played a part in the history of the state. There is also an extensive



collection of posters gathered mainly during the World War.

Most of the material in the museum has been contributed by members and friends of the society, for the available funds have been too limited to permit of purchases. Objects and pictures which illustrate methods and conditions now obsolete and which would therefore be valuable additions to the collections are to be found in almost every household, and the owners are invited to present them to the museum where their preservation will be assured and they will help the people of the present and the future to visualize the life of the past. A special effort is being made to collect cooking utensils, household furniture, tools, and other articles characteristic of pioneer days, in order that they may be available for the furnishing of a replica of a pioneer log cabin to be erected in the museum. Material of special value is sometimes accepted on deposit when the owner is unwilling to surrender title to it. particularly when there is a probability that it will ultimately become the property of the society.

Since the transfer of the museum to the new building and the appointment of a curator, rapid progress has been made in the classification and cataloguing of the collections. The unframed pictures are divided into groups by size, arranged by subject within each group, and placed in vertical files; and a card catalogue

of the entire picture collection enables one quickly to ascertain its resources on any given subject or to locate a desired picture. The historical and archeological objects are recorded in an accession book, numbered, and provided with explanatory labels. No catalogue of this material is available as yet, but it is expected that one will be begun in the near future.

In the arrangement of exhibits the primary purpose is to interest and instruct the hundreds of people who visit the museum every week. The specimens are grouped in some legical or chronological manner and much historical information is conveyed by means of carefully written labels. Most of the large objects and some of the more significant of the smaller ones are kept on display permanently. but it is neither possible nor desirable to exhibit all the possessions of the museum at any one time. By occasional changes in the main groups and by the frequent display of special exhibits, often related to some current event or anniversary, the interest of the public is sustained and the educational possibilities are increased. Material not on exhibition is kept in the large storage closets so arranged that it is readily available when wanted by investigators. Of the extensive archeological collection, much of which is of interest mainly to specialists, the greater part is kept in storage and only selections of typical or unusually in-



teresting articles are exhibited. Only a part of the framed pictures, also, can be hung at any one 'time, and the unframed pictures are displayed as a rule only in special exhibits. For these the resources of the society's book and manuscript collections are frequently 'drawn upon also.

The work of the museum with school children is particularly promising. Teachers of courses in history, government, geography, domestic science, and other subjects are rapidly discovering the facilities which it offers for visual instruction, with the result that some six or seven thousand pupils in college, high school, and grade classes, not only from the Twin Cities but also from other parts of the state, are brought to the museum annually to examine and study the collections. Twice a month during the school year, on the second and fourth Saturday afternoons at three o'clock, special museum talks for children in the grades from the fourth to the eighth inclusive are given by the curator or other members of the society's staff. These talks, which are very popular with the children, serve to arouse an interest in and an appreciation of the things of the past.

The museum is open to the public daily except Sundays and holidays, and occasionally provision is made for a holiday opening. It is hoped that provision for opening on Sunday afternoons may be made in the near future.

THE RESEARCH AND EDITORIAL DIVISION

Not content with the mere collection and preservation of the materials for history, the society has from the beginning promoted research to extend the boundaries of historical knowledge and disseminated historical information by the publication of original documents and narratives, monographs, papers, and compilations of data. The first publication, issued in 1850 with the title Annals of the Minnesota Historical Society, consisted of an address by the Reverend E. D. Neill on "The French Voyageurs to Minnesota in the Sev enteenth Century" (28 p.). Similar Annals were published in each of the three succeeding years, and in 1856 a report submitted by the society to the legislature was issued as a territorial document with the title Materials for the Future History of Minnesota (141 p.). These publications were reprinted in 1872 as volume 1 of the Collections of the Minnesota Historical Society, and this series has been continued to the present day.

The Minnesota Historical Collections, as this series is commonly called, consist at present of seventeen volumes, of which one, volume 10, is bound in two parts, and one, volume 16, is still incomplete. Nine of these volumes are made up of miscellaneous documents, papers, sketches, and memoirs, and the remainder



consist of monographs or special compilations as follows: 4, History of the City of St. Paul and the County of Ramsey, Minnesota, by J. Fletcher Williams (1876, 475 p.); 5, Histories of the Ojibway Indians, by William W. Warren and Edward D. Neill (1885, 535 p.); 7, The Mississippi River and Its Source, by Jacob V. Brower (1893. 360 p.); 11, Itasca State Park, An Illustrated History, by the same author (1904, 285 p.); 13, Lives of the Governors of Minnesota. by James H. Baker (1908, 480 p.); 14, Minutsota Biographies, 1655-1912, by Warren Upham and Mrs. Rose B. Dunlap (1912, 892 p.); 16. part 1, The Weathering of Aboriginal Stone Artifacts, No. 1, by Newton H. Winchell (1913, 186 p.): and 17. Minnesota Geographic Names, Their Origin and Historic Significance, by Warren Upham (1920, 735 p.). In the future the Collections will be reserved mainly for original material; and a number of series of volumes have been planned. to include all the important sources not elsewhere readily available in print, for the various periods and phases of Minnesota's history.

A monograph on the Aborigines of Minnesota, by Newton H. Winchell (761 p.), not included in the Collections series, was published in 1911; and the society has in press at the present time the first volume of a four-volume History of Minnesota, by William W. Folwell. It is expected that the other volumes of this work will appear at intervals of about a year. A quarterly magazine, the Minnesota History Bulletin.

has been published since 1915. Each issue contains one or more papers or addresses and also reviews of books touching on Minnesota history, information about the activities of the society, and historical news and comment. Occasionally a section devoted to notes and documents is included. Annual reports to the legislature were published for the years from 1867 to 1878 inclusive, and these are followed by a series of twenty-one biennial reports.

The publications are sent regularly to all members and to libraries with which exchange relations have been established. The reports are distributed freely as long as the supply lasts, and copies of the other publications are available for purchase. Price lists will be supplied on application. Public and school libraries in Minnesota can secure the current publications on a subscription basis by payments equal to the dues of annual members—two dollars a year.

The preparation or revision of copy and the reading of proof for the various publications are the principal functions of the research and editorial division of the society. This division also undertakes, however, to compile information on all sorts of historical problems in response to inquiries received by mail. Desiring to extend its service as widely as possible, the society welcomes such inquiries, especially when they involve the use of material not generally available and come from people unable to use the resources of the society in person.



FIELD WORK

This society was among the first to undertake a systematic survey of its field for the purpose of bringing to light scattered and hitherto undiscovered, little-known, or neglected sources of historical information, and of arousing a more general and active interest in state and local history. A field agent was employed in this work from September, 1916, to the end of 1917, and during this period about thirty-five communities in twenty-four counties were visited. The pressure of other more immediately essential tasks and the lack of fundanceessitated the suspension of this work in 1918, but it will be resumed at the first opportunity.

The work of the field agent centered about the task of making comprehensive inventories of the archives of the counties of the state, as found in their courthouses, with notes on the condition of the records and the methods of making and preserving them. These inventories were completed for sixteen of the eightysix counties of Minnesota. When the remainder of the counties have been covered the inventories will be published, and it is hoped * that the resulting volume will serve, not only as a useful guide book for those who have occasion to consult the records, whether for historical or other purposes, but also as a starting point for a movement to improve the administration of county archives.

The field agent endeavored also to discover and list extant files of local newspapers in the places visited, in order that the newspaper material available to workers in Minnesota history might be supplemented either through accessions to the society's collection or through centralized information about files to be found in the localities. Search was also made for manuscripts and museum objects of historical value in private hands, with a view to acquiring or at least locating and listing them. In each community an endeavor was made to arouse in as many people as possible an appreciation of the value and possibilities of local historical work, with the object of securing their interest and cooperation and of paving the way for the establishment of county historical societies.

WAR HISTORY ACTIVITIES

During the late war the various departments of the society made special efforts to acquire records relating to the state's war contributions and to events and conditions within the state peculiar to the times. In this way, and through normal receipts of newspapers and other current material, a considerable beginning was made in the assembling of state war history material. The burden of the work in this special field is now carried, however, by the Minnesota War Records Commission, a body closely affiliated with the society through



its origin and personnel and through the location of its office in the same building.

This commission, originally organized and supported by the Minnesota Commission of Public Safety and the Minnesota Historical Society, was established by law in April, 1919, and was directed to collect material and to prepare and publish a comprehensive documentary and narrative history of Minnesota in the World War. With the state funds appropriated for the biennium 1919-21, and with the cooperation of the historical society and other agencies, the commission has been able to assemble a mass of important material; but it has been unable as yet, for lack of funds, to commence publication.

Records of individuals now in the possession of the commission include statements of the services of nearly all soldiers, sailors, and marines from the state; brief biographies of a large, proportion of those who lost their lives in the service; and accounts of the services of many of the civilians who did special work in association with the armed forces. Special efforts are being made to complete these files and the attention of the commission should be called to any members of the groups mentioned whose war records are not yet on file in its office. The commission has also acquired extensive files of official correspondence, reports, and printed miscellany from such war agencies as the United States Employment

Service, the Food and Fuel Administrations, the Jewish Welfare Board, the Military Training Camps Association, the Public Safety Commission, the Red Cross, the War Camp Community Service, and the Young which Christian Association. Organizations still retain their war-time files are invited to deposit them with the commission for permanent safe keeping and for use in the preparation of the state war history, which will sooner or later be written. Extensive collections of war pictures, posters, museum objects, and private letters and diaries have also been built up in cooperation with the museum and the manuscript division of the historical society. In this connection it should be noted that everything turned over to the commission will ultimately be transferred to the society, which, being the more permanent institution, is designated by law as the official custodian of the state war records collection.

Auxiliary committees organized by the commission in counties throughout the state have done a useful work in building up local war records collections and in contributing material to the state collection. Especially noteworthy at the present time is the work being done in the more populous counties of Hennepin, Ramsey, and St. Louis, with headquarters. respectively, in Room 318, Court House, Minueapolis; Room 1, Historical Building, St. Paul: and Room 2, Court House, Duluth.



The legislature of 1921 increased the commission's appropriation and also assigned to it the additional task of preparing and publishing a volume on Minnesota in the Spanishing

American War and the Philippine Insurrection. Since this volume, under the law, must be issued before any other, commencement of publication of the state World War history originally projected will have to be postponed for a time. Meanwhile the commission will be glad

to receive or obtain the use of any letters. diaries, or other material of the Spanish War period which may now be available.

period which may now be available.

For the guidance of its county committees in the collection of World War records and for the information of the public the commission has issued a series of bulletins entitled, (1) A State-wide Movement for the Collection and Preservation of Minnesota's War Records; (2) Minnesota's Part in the War, Shall it be Adequately Recorded! and (3) County War History Prospectus and Guide to the Collection of Material (mimeographed). Further information may be obtained from the Report of the commission to the governor, January, 1921 (mimeographed) or by addressing the secretary, Franklin F. Holbrook, at the Historical Building, St. Paul

[HANDBOOK SERIES No. 3]

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ROLL OF MEMBERS

AND OF

SUBSCRIBING SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES



SAINT PAUL PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY NOVEMBER, 1927



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JOHN R. SWANN
WARREN UPHAM
JED L. WASHBURN

The executive committee consists of the president, the accretary, the treasurer, and two appointed members, William W. Cutler and Harold Harris.



or more but less than fifty dollars are designated as contributing-life members.

Institutional membership is open to any club, society, or institution in the state interested in any phase of its history. Annual institutional members pay dues of two dollars a year, sustaining institutional, of ten dollars a year, and the fee for permanent institutional membership is one hundred dollars. Honorary and corresponding members are elected by the executive council of the society.

All members of the society receive its current publications, and any school or library in the state is entitled to subscribe for them at the rate of two dollars a year. The right to vote at meetings of the society is restricted to active members and delegates representing institutional members.

It is interesting to observe that the active members here listed reside in 75 of the 87 counties of Minnesota, in 32 other states and territories, and in 4 foreign countries. Of the 9 institutional members, 2 are state organizations and the others are located in Brown, Goodhue, Olmsted, Otter Tail, Rice, St. Louis, and Winona counties. In only 6 counties of Minnesota—Benton, Cook, Grant, Le Sueur, Mahnomen, and Sherburne—has the society neither members nor subscribers; in 6 others—Cass, Koochiching, Lake of the

Woods, Norman, Sibley, and Wabasha—there are no members; and in 18 others—Carver, Chippewa, Chisago, Clearwater, Faribault, Hubbard, Kanabec, Lake, Nicollet, Pennington, Pine, Pope, Roseau, Scott, Todd, Waseca, Watonwan, and Wilkin—there are no subscribers.

The members resident in Minnesota amount to 5.6 for each ten thousand of population. Ramsey County has the highest proportion of members to population, 14.3 for each ten thousand. Cottonwood comes next with 13.0, followed by Olmsted, 12.1; Brown, 11.6; Hennepin, 11.0; Wilkin, 8.8; Rice, 8.5; Lac qui Parle, 7.6; Blue Earth, 6.7; Winona, 5.9; and Anoka, 5.8.



EXPLANATION

In the lists that follow the names of patrons and contributing-life members are given first in alphabetical arrangements. These names are repeated, however, in the list of all active and institutional members and of subscribers arranged by counties. In this list institutional members are distinguished by the use of small capitals and the subscribers are listed separately at the end of each group. Life and permanent institutional members are designated by a star and sustaining members by a dagger. The names of the honorary and corresponding members will be found at the end of the lists.

ROLL OF MEMBERS AND OF SUBSCRIBING SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES

REVISED TO NOVEMBER I, 1927

PATRONS

Bell, Fred S., Winona Cutler, Edward H., St. Paul Noyes, Mrs. Charles P., St. Paul Tighe, Ambrose, St. Paul

CONTRIBUTING-LIFE MEMBERS

Bernier, Henri J., Oakland, Cal.
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Child, Mrs. Sampson R., Minneapolis
Cutler, William W., St. Paul
Farrington, Robert I., Needham, Mass.
Furness, Mrs. Charles E., St. Paul
Loring, Albert C., Minneapolis
McGill, Mrs. Andrew R., St. Paul
McGill, Robert C., St. Paul
McGonagle, William A., Duluth
Mayo, Dr. Charles H., Rochester
Mayo, Dr. William J., Rochester
Prescott, Augustus S., Sheldon, Iowa
Swann, John R., Madison
Washburn, Mrs. John, Minneapolis



ACTIVE AND INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS AND SUBSCRIBERS .

Minnesota at Large *COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA IN MINNE-

*MINNESOTA DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

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Isanti

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*Bechhoefer, Charles, St. Paul *Bell, George, St. Paul *Benz, Mrs. George G., St. Paul *Bernard, Swen, St. Paul *Berrisford, Enoch F., St. Paul *Betz, Louis, St. Paul *Bigelow, Charles H., St. Paul Bigelow, Frederick R., St. Paul *Bill, Alfred H., St. Paul *Bill, Fred A., St. Paul *Bill, Mrs. Fred A., St. Paul Blegen, Theodore C., St. Paul Blodgett, Harvey A., St. Paul *Bohland, John A., St. Paul Boss, Andrew, St. Paul Boyle, Michael J., St. Paul Brack, George M., St. Paul *Bradford, John M., St. Paul *Bremer, Otto, St. Paul Bremer, Paul G., St. Paul Brett, Peris A., St. Paul Briggs, Asa G., St. Paul *Brooks, Dr. Dwight F., St. Paul *Brown, Cyrus P., St. Paul *Brown, Montreville J., St. Paul *Budd, Ralph, St. Paul Bumgardner, Louis A., St. Paul *Bunn, Charles W., St. Paul *Burch, Dr. Frank E., St. Paul *Busch, Rev. William, St. Paul *Butler, Mrs. William, St. Paul Caldwell, Chester L., St. Paul Carney, Mary V., St. Paul *Carpenter, M. Blanchard, St. Paul Carter, Warren S., St. Paul *Catlin, Frederick M., St. Paul Chapin, Mrs. George G., St. Paul Chapin, Mrs. Walter L., St. Paul *Chapman, Benjamin O., St. Paul



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*Cole, Dr. Wallace H., St. Paul
Colvin, Dr. Alexander R., St. Paul
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Dane, George R., St. Paul
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Denegre, Mrs. James D., St. Paul
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Dickey, Minerva L., St. Paul
Dilley, Mrs. Elizabeth, St. Paul
Donnelly, Melvin J., St. Paul
Donnelly, Charles, St. Paul
*Dougan, Edward C., St. Paul

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Doyle, John A., St. Paul

*Drake, Harry T., St. Paul

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Summit School, St. Paul White Bear Lake Public Library

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Red Lake Falls Public Schools

Redwood

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Fairfax High School Hector Associated Schools Independent School District No. 66, Frankli Olivia Public Library Renville Consolidated Schools

Rice

Boe, Lars W., Northfield Chaffee, Fred M., Faribault Clark, Keith, Northfield Cole, Kate I., Faribault Cowling, Donald J., Northfield Duniway, Clyde A., Northfield Evans, Edward H., Northfield Flaten, Nils, Northfield Gipson, Eugene H., Faribault †Hilleboe, Gertrude M., Northfield Hillyer, John C., Northfield Jenkins, Frederick E., Faribault *Kaisersatt, Frank M., Faribault Morehouse, Mrs. Leah, Faribault Newhall, Charles W., Faribault *Palmer, Rev. Francis L., Faribault *Patton, Walter M., Northfield Peavey, Louis, Faribault RICE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Faribauit *Roe, Herman, Northfield Rowberg, Andrew A., Northfield Sayles, Charles N., Faribault Watson, Isabella, Northfield Weicht, Carl L., Northfield

Faribault Public Library Morristown Public School Northfield Public Library St. Olaf College, Northfield Seabury Divinity School, Faribault



Rock

Ferguson, Marjorie F., Luverne Jacobson, Jacob N., Hills Johnston, Dorothy, Luverne Wiggins, J. Russell, Luverne

Luverne High School Luverne Public Library

Roseau

Billberg, Eddy E., Roseau Fryklund, P. O., Roseau

St. Louis

*Adams, Dr. Bertram S., Hibbing *Adams, Charles E., Duluth *Alworth, Marshall H., Duluth †Alworth, Marshall W., Duluth *Arnold, John B., Duluth Arnold, Luther B., Duluth †Bailey, Ernest A., Virginia *Bailey, William D., Duluth Baldwin, Albert, Duluth Barnes, Arthur P., Duluth †Barnes, Clarence H., Duluth Barnes, Mrs. Julia M., Duluth *Barnes, Julius H., Duluth *Barnum, George G., Jr., Duluth Bede, J. Adam, Duluth Bessette, Fred W., Orr *Bingham, Stillman H., Duluth *Bohannon, Eugene W., Duluth Brown, Arthur H., Duluth Buck, Fred W., Duluth *Cant, William A., Duluth †Carmichael, Harold A., Duluth *Chisholm, Archibald M., Duluth *Clarfield, Albert B., Duluth *Coffin, Mrs. Mary E., Duluth

*Congdon, Edward C., Duluth *Congdon, Walter B., Duluth *Crassweller, Arthur H., Duluth Crassweller, Frank, Duluth *Crosby, George H., Duluth *Culkin, William E., Duluth Darling, John H., Duluth *Day, Frank A., Duluth DeGroat, Francis H., Duluth *Dudley, Harry C., Duluth *Ely, Robert H., Eveleth *Fay, George A., Duluth *Fesler, Judge Bert, Duluth *Getchell, William B., Duluth Grannis, Judge Henry J., Duluth *Hanson, M. Francis, Duluth †Harper, James H., Duluth Hartman, Alex W., Duluth *Hearding, John H., Duluth Higburg, Herbert, Duluth Hoshour, Harvey, Duluth Hunt, J. W., Duluth Jaques, Robert, Duluth Jenswold, John, Duluth Johnson, Edward W., Floodwood †Johnson, Gilmore H., Floodwood Lockhart, George O., Duluth McCabe, William J., Duluth *McClearn, Hugh J., Duluth *McDonald, Donald B., Duluth McDougall, A. Miller, Duluth *McGonagle, William A., Duluth McGonagle, Mrs. William A., Duluth *Mendenhall, Luther, Duluth Miller, Charlotte V., Duluth *Mitchell, Oscar, Duluth †More, Dr. Charles W., Eveleth *Nelson, Andrew, Duluth



St. Louis (Continued) Nelson, P. H., Duluth *Newell, Horatio S., Duluth *Olcott, William J., Duluth *Paine, Frederic W., Duluth *Pardee, John S., Duluth Parker, Dr. Owen W., Ely †Phelps, Hervey H., Duluth *Prince, William I., Duluth *Prindle, William M., Duluth *Quinn, Clement K., Duluth *Ray, Philip L., Duluth Rood, Dr. Dana C., Duluth Rupley, George, Duluth St. Louis County Historical Society. Duluth Saxby, S. Valentine, Duluth †Schaefer, Peter, Ely Sebenius, John U., Duluth Seeley, Henry G., Biwabik Sherwood, William C., Duluth *Silliman, Arthur P., Hibbing Smith, Melford I., Hibbing *Spencer, Herbert R., Duluth Stryker, John D., Duluth Swanson, Mrs. Gladys A., Duluth Turner, Maynard W., Duluth Walker, James W., Duluth *Washburn, Jed L., Duluth Weaver, Roger M., Duhuth *Webb, Francis J., Duluth *Weiss, Anton C., Duluth White, Robert M., Duluth *Whitman, George A., Eveleth *Willcuts, Levi M., Duluth *Williams, John G., Duluth *Wilson, Coryate S., Duluth Woodbridge, Dwight E., Duluth

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*Mitchell, William B., St. Cloud
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Steele

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Kerkhoven Public Schools

Todd

Saterbak, Weaver, Long Prairie Wood, Elisha B., Long Prairie

Traverse

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Mangskau, Eugene H., Breckenridge
Pierce, Frank L., Breckenridge
Schendel, Henry, Campbell
*Shirley, Halvor L., Breckenridge
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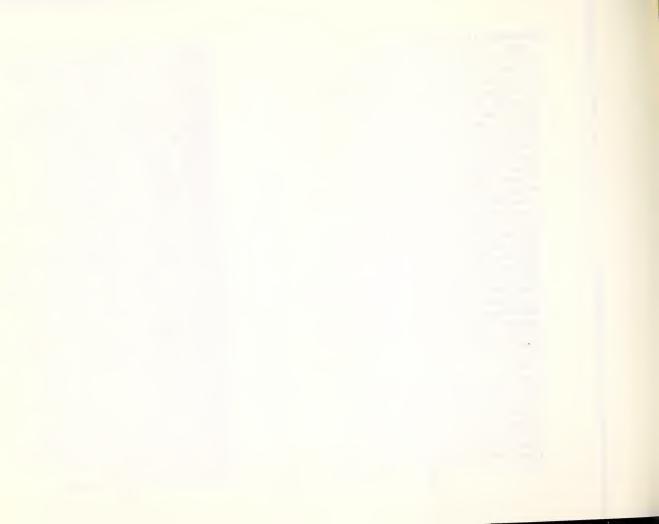
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[HANDBOOK SERIES No. 4]

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FOREWORD

The following lists contain the names of 1,551 members of the Minnesota Historical Society and 185 subscribing schools and libraries. The membership list includes the names of 8 honorary, 47 corresponding, 1,476 active, and 20 institutional members. The active members are further classified as 647 life members, 25 sustaining members, and 804 annual members. The life members include 3 patrons and 25 contributing-life members. Of the institutional members 3 are classified as permanent and 17 as annual.

Active membership is open to any one interested on making application and paying the first installment of dues. Annual members pay three dollars a year, sustaining members ten dollars a year, and the life membership fee is fifty dollars. Anyone who has paid dues as a sustaining member for six successive years or as an annual member for twenty successive years is enrolled as a life member. The contribution of one thousand dollars or more to the permanent fund of the society or annual contributions of fifty dollars or more entitle the contributor to be enrolled as a patron. Life members making annual contributions of five dollars or more but less than fifty dollars are designated as contributing-life members.



Institutional membership is open to any club, society, or institution in the state interested in any phase of its history. Annual institutional members pay fees of three dollars a year, sustaining institutional, of ten dollars a year, and the fee for permanent institutional membership is one hundred dollars. Honorary and corresponding members are elected by the executive council of the society.

All members of the society receive its current publications, and any school or library in the state is entitled to subscribe for them at the rate of three dollars a year. The right to vote at meetings of the society is restricted to active members and delegates representing institutional members.

It is interesting to observe that the active members here listed reside in 78 of the 87 counties of Minnesota, in 32 other states, and in three foreign countries. Of the twenty institutional members, 2 are state organizations and the others are located in Blue Earth, Brown, Cook, Cottonwood, Crow Wing, Goodhue, Hennepin, Martin, Olmsted, Otter Tail, Ramsey, Renville, Rice, Roseau, St. Louis, and Winona counties. In only 5 counties of Minnesota—Benton, Grant, Mahomen, Sherburne, and Todd—has the society neither members nor subscribers; in 4 others—Koochiching, Murray, Norman, and Wadena—there are no members; and in 15 others—Carver, Chippewa, Clear-

water, Cook, Faribault, Hubbard, Kanabec, Lake, Nicollet, Pennington, Pope, Roseau, Stevens, Waseca, and Watonwan—there are no subscribers.

The members resident in Minnesota amount to 5.6 for each ten thousand of population according to the census of 1920. Ramsey county has the highest proportion of members to population, 14.8 for each ten thousand. Olmsted comes next with 11.7; followed by Hennepin, 11.0; Brown, 9.9; Rice, 9.2; Cottonwood, 8.9; Lac qui Parle, 7.7; Blue Earth, 6.7; Anoka, 5.8; Winona, 5.7; Mille Lacs, 5.6; Steele, 5.5; and McLeod, 5.4.



EXPLANATION

In the lists that follow the names of patrons and contributing-life members are given first in alphabetical arrangements. These names are repeated, however, in the list of all active and institutional members and of subscribers arranged by counties. In this list institutional members are distinguished by the use of small capitals and the subscribers are listed separately at the end of each group. Life and permanent institutional members are designated by a star and sustaining members by a dagger. The names of the honorary and corresponding members will be found at the end of the lists.

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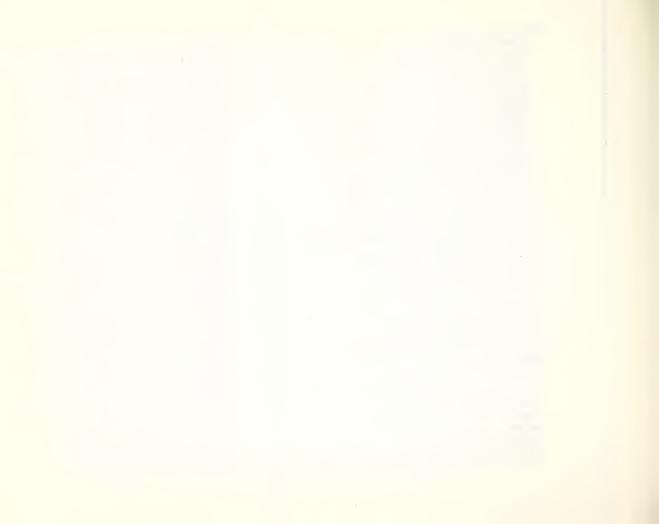
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